

**Delaware
Department of
Transportation**

F.Y.I.

Gotcha

**Delaware's Intersection Cameras
Target Red Light Runners**

A CLOSER LOOK...



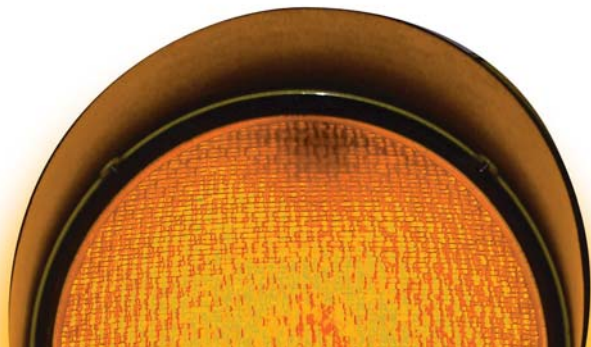
Running a red light isn't worth the cost - especially in lives



Delaware is serious about enforcing its red light running laws. Red light violations cause over 800 deaths and 200,000 injuries in the United States each year. According to the Delaware Department of Highway Safety, of the 21,218 car accidents in Delaware last year, 1,068 were caused by drivers playing this dangerous game of Russian roulette with their own lives, and with the lives of anyone unfortunate enough to get in their way.

Police can't be at an intersection 24/7; but cameras can

For everyone's safety, including those who refuse to play by the rules of safe driving, Delaware is adding state-of-the-art electronic enforcement systems to many intersections statewide and hitting red light runners in a place where it's sure to hurt – the pocket-book – with fines of \$75 per violation.



In other states, cameras have reduced red light running by up to **70%**

This type of program has worked very well in other communities. In Howard County, Maryland, red light violations decreased by 42%. In Charlotte, North Carolina, the reduction was even more dramatic – 70% in the first six months!

You got caught - now what?

The citation you receive in the mail will include the following information, as shown in the sample to the right:

Your vehicle
information

You will have three choices when you receive a citation:

Pay the \$75 fine. Payment methods and address will be included on your citation.

Appeal the citation. You may appeal the citation in court. Appeals will be heard in the Justice of the Peace civil court system or in some cases, a court of local jurisdiction. A court date will be scheduled for you when you remit the tear-off form attached to the citation.


Submit an affidavit or police report stating you were not driving the car.

The registered owner will be held responsible for an electronic red light violation unless he or she can furnish evidence, in the form of an affidavit, that the vehicle was in the care, custody, or control of another person at the time of the violation. The affidavit must include the name and address of that person.

If the vehicle or license plate was stolen when the violation occurred, the owner must attach a certified copy of a police report showing the vehicle or plates were stolen prior to the time of the alleged violation.



TOWN OF VIENNA, VIRGINIA
RED LIGHT TRAFFIC CAMERA NOTICE OF VIOLATION



Citation Number102990675

REGISTERED OWNER INFORMATION:

1234 Main Street
Vienna VA 22180

PLEASE SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

Citation Information

CITATION NUMBER:102990675
MAILING DATE:02/22/2000
PAYMENT DUE DATE:03/07/2000

AMOUNT DUE >>\$50.00

Violation Images and Vehicle Registration Information

VEHICLE TAG
YRK1482
STATE:VA
YEAR:1999
MAKE:Ford
EXP:DECEMBER 15, 2000
TYPE:Mustang

LOCATION OF OFFENSE:
Nutley, Courthouse

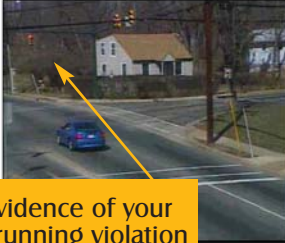

DATE/TIME OF OFFENSE:
02/22/2000 13:19:12

ISSUING OFFICER:
Murphy, Tom

VEHICLE CROSSED STOP
LINE 1.15 SECONDS
AFTER SIGNAL TURNED RED

VEHICLE SPEED: 35 MPH

Video of this offense
is available for review
at the Vienna Police
Department by
appointment only. For
more information
about viewing the
video from
citation,
703-255



Please return this portion with your payment -- Use the enclosed envelope

Citation Number102990675

For general information, or to contest this violation, please see the instructions on the reverse side of this Notice.

Payments may be made by calling:
(800) 554-1403

DO NOT SEND CASH! (U.S. FUNDS ONLY!)
Make check or money order payable to:

TOWN OF VIENNA
P O BOX 2081
Tustin, CA 92781-2081

AMOUNT DUE >>\$ 50.00

PAY BY 03/07/2000

RED LIGHT VIOLATOR
1234 Main Street
Vienna VA 22180

Payment
Methods

SAMPLE

Unpaid fines are subject to late penalties if unpaid for 30 to 90 days. Your vehicle registration could be flagged or suspended so that you cannot re-register your car or register a new car until initial fine and late fees have been paid.



Cameras are being installed at critical intersections statewide

Delaware is the first state in the country to install digital red light running cameras statewide. The cameras are being located at intersections in Kent, New Castle, and Sussex Counties where past accident history and/or reports from police and the general public indicate that drivers have frequently been running red lights. Not only do these cameras catch red light violators, they have become useful tools in helping to determine the cause of some intersection accidents.

Goal is to change driver behavior

Every driver has a quick decision to make when approaching an intersection where the light is turning from yellow to red. Sometimes it makes sense to continue through the intersection, but once the light has turned red, it clearly does not. Still, impatient people often choose to ignore the law, and that puts lives at risk. Thanks to red light enforcement technology, agencies like DelDOT are working to change these drivers' behavior. Red light violators in Delaware face stiff fines — these fines, not taxes, support the cameras' existence.

Signs near the intersection identify that the cameras are in use



How the cameras catch red light runners

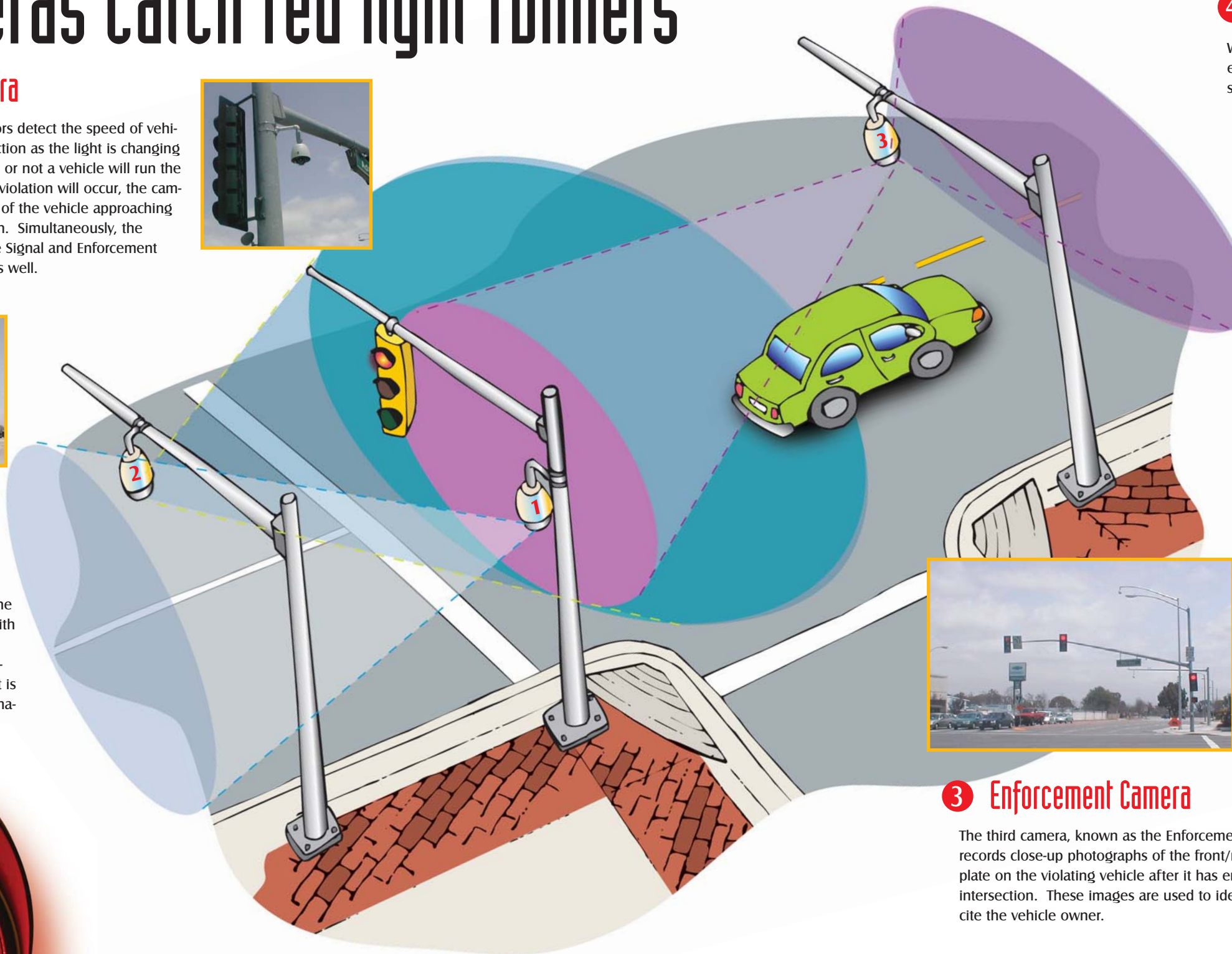
1 Tracking Camera

The Tracking Camera's sensors detect the speed of vehicles approaching an intersection as the light is changing to red, and predicts whether or not a vehicle will run the red light. If it senses that a violation will occur, the camera records multiple images of the vehicle approaching and entering the intersection. Simultaneously, the Tracking Camera triggers the Signal and Enforcement Cameras to record images as well.



2 Signal Camera

The second, or Signal Camera, records multiple images of the vehicle approaching and entering the intersection from behind, with a clear view of the signal ahead. This shows the vehicle's location when the light is red and can be used as primary evidence of a violation.



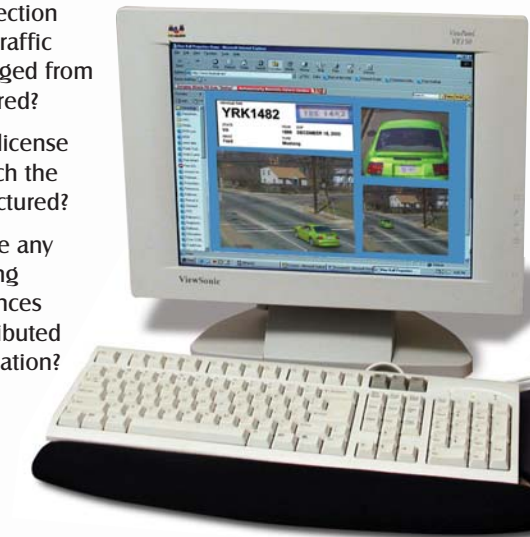
3 Enforcement Camera

The third camera, known as the Enforcement Camera, records close-up photographs of the front/rear license plate on the violating vehicle after it has entered the intersection. These images are used to identify and cite the vehicle owner.

4 Images Sent Electronically & Reviewed

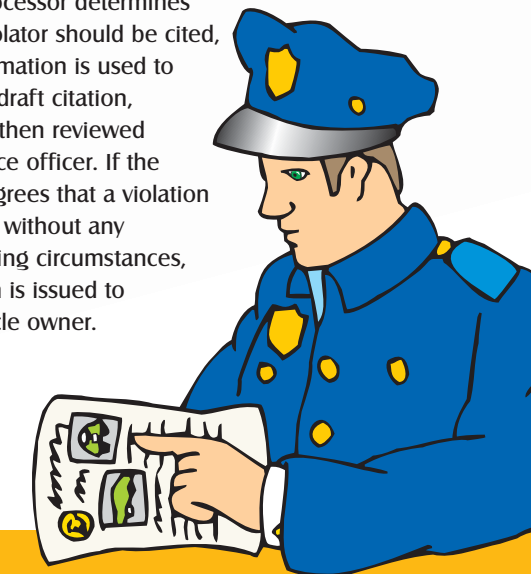
When an offense has been committed, the camera images are converted to a digital file and sent electronically to a processing center where specially trained personnel review the images to verify:

- Did the vehicle enter the intersection after the traffic light changed from yellow to red?
- Does the license plate match the vehicle pictured?
- Were there any extenuating circumstances that contributed to the violation?



5 Violation & Citation

If the processor determines that a violator should be cited, the information is used to create a draft citation, which is then reviewed by a police officer. If the officer agrees that a violation occurred without any extenuating circumstances, a citation is issued to the vehicle owner.



Citations show only the vehicle, not the people inside

The cameras may record images of the driver and passenger, but these images are not used for enforcement purposes, nor do they appear in the citation sent out to the vehicle owner. Frontal images are used for two purposes: to record the license plates of semi-trailer trucks and out-of-state vehicles, and to determine if there were extenuating circumstances that may have caused the driver to run the red light (for example, the driver ran the light to yield the right-of-way to an emergency services vehicle).

You will not receive any points

An electronic red light citation is similar to a parking ticket in that the owner of the vehicle, not the driver, is the person who is held responsible for payment of the violation. Since the driver of the vehicle will not be identified, no points will be assessed.

Questions . . .

If you have questions about your citation you may call DelDOT at 1-800-000-0000 or contact the police department who reviewed and approved the citation. Their telephone number will appear on the citation.

A series of informational brochures
from the Delaware Department of Transportation.

For in-depth information...

About Delaware transportation subjects, visit our web sites at:
www.deldot.net **www.DARTFirstState.com**

F.Y.I. brochures are available from the
Office of Public Relations:

The Capital Improvement Program and the Council on Transportation What are they? How do they work? How can the public get involved?

Corridor Capacity Preservation Program What's being done to make sure existing roads can handle future economic growth?

Access Management How can managing access reduce congestion, improve safety, preserve economic development opportunities and extend a road's service life?

Transportation & Delaware's Future Highlights of DelDOT's Long-Range Transportation Plan

The Integrated Transportation Management System A tool for reducing congestion.

Understanding the Pipeline Process How ideas, plans and suggestions for transportation projects move from concept to completion.

Public Involvement How you can be involved in shaping transportation decisions.

Highway Safety Improvement Program How targeting improvements to high-accident sites is reducing the likelihood and severity of accidents on Delaware's roads.

Customer Satisfaction Surveys Important feedback helps us serve you better. We're listening.

Stormwater Management If you value Delaware's beautiful ocean, bays, rivers and streams, help us protect them by reducing water pollution "at the source."

For more information please contact:
Delaware Department of Transportation
Public Relations • P.O. Box 778 • Dover, DE 19903
(302) 760-2080 or 1-800-652-5600 (in Delaware)

